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CONSUMER & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMMENT DEADLINES FOR "CRAMMING" FURTHER NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

CG Docket Nos. 11-116 and 09-158; CC Docket No. 98-170

Comments Due: June 25, 2012 Reply Comments Due: July 9, 2012

On April 27, 2012, the Commission released a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposing additional rules to help consumers prevent and detect the placement of unauthorized charges on their telephone bills, an unlawful and fraudulent practice commonly referred to as "cramming." The Further Notice seeks comment on whether the Commission should take additional steps to prevent wireline cramming, including requiring carriers to obtain a consumer's affirmative consent before placing third-party charges on their own bills to consumers (*i.e.*, "opt-in"), possible regulatory and non-regulatory measures to address cramming for Commercial Mobile Radio Service and developments related to Voice over Internet Protocol service.

As stated in the Further Notice, the comment and reply comment deadlines for the Further Notice are 30 days and 45 days, respectively, after publication of the Further Notice in the Federal Register. A summary of the Further Notice was published in the Federal Register on May 24, 2012. Therefore, comments will be due on or before **June 25, 2012**, and reply comments will be due on or before **July 9, 2012**. Submissions should be filed in accordance with the instructions provided in the Further Notice.

For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Melissa Conway, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, at (202) 418-2887, or at Melissa.Conway@fcc.gov.

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¹ See Empowering Consumers to Prevent and Detect Billing for Unauthorized Charges ("Cramming"); Consumer Information and Disclosure; Truth-in-Billing and Billing Format, CG Docket Nos. 11-116 and 09-158, CC Docket 98-170, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 12-42 (rel. Apr. 27, 2012).

² 77 Fed. Reg. 30972 (May 24, 2012).